

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1008

To improve public awareness in the United States regarding safe use of the Internet through the establishment of an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness within the Federal Trade Commission.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2007

Ms. BEAN (for herself, Mr. HILL, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. BARROW, Mr. BERRY, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. KIND, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROSS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHULER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. TANNER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To improve public awareness in the United States regarding safe use of the Internet through the establishment of an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness within the Federal Trade Commission.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Safeguarding Amer-
3 ica’s Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and
4 Efficient Technologies Act of 2007” or the “SAFER NET
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.**

7 The Federal Trade Commission shall establish an Of-
8 fice of Internet Safety and Public Awareness, which shall
9 have responsibility for programs and activities relating to
10 increasing public awareness and providing education re-
11 garding Internet safety.

12 **SEC. 3. DIRECTOR.**

13 The Office shall be headed by a Director who shall
14 be appointed by the Commission.

15 **SEC. 4. INTERNET SAFETY.**

16 For purposes of this Act, the issue of Internet safety
17 includes issues regarding use of the Internet in a manner
18 that promotes safe online activity, including safe trans-
19 actions involved in online commerce, and protects against
20 threats to financial information and privacy, threats from
21 cyber-crime, and threats to juveniles, including cyber-
22 predators and material that is inappropriate for minors.

23 **SEC. 5. DUTIES.**

24 (a) ACTIVITIES.—The Commission, acting through
25 the Office, shall carry out a nationwide program to in-
26 crease public awareness and education regarding Internet

1 safety, for families, businesses, organizations, and other
2 users, that utilizes existing resources and efforts of the
3 Federal Government, State and local governments, non-
4 profit organizations, private technology and financial com-
5 panies, Internet service providers, World Wide Web-based
6 resources, and other appropriate entities, that includes—

7 (1) evaluating Internet safety efforts and activi-
8 ties provided at various levels of government and by
9 other entities;

10 (2) improving efficiency of Internet safety ef-
11 forts and activities, by eliminating redundancy of ef-
12 forts at various levels of government and other enti-
13 ties, identifying, promoting, and expanding effective
14 such efforts and activities and coordinating among
15 such efforts and activities;

16 (3) identifying, promoting, and encouraging
17 best practices for Internet safety;

18 (4) establishing and carrying out a national
19 outreach and education campaign regarding Internet
20 safety utilizing various media and Internet-based re-
21 sources;

22 (5) serving as the primary contact in the Fed-
23 eral Government, and as a national clearinghouse,
24 for information and public awareness efforts regard-
25 ing Internet safety;

1 (6) facilitating access to, and the exchange of,
2 information regarding Internet safety to promote up-
3 to-date knowledge regarding current issues;

4 (7) providing expert advice and consultation to
5 the Commission regarding Internet safety issues;
6 and

7 (8) providing assistance, including technical as-
8 sistance and financial assistance under subsection
9 (c), to States, units of local government, schools, po-
10 lice departments, non-profit organizations, and such
11 other entities as the Office considers appropriate to
12 promote Internet safety education and public aware-
13 ness.

14 (b) GRANTS AND CONTRACTS.—

15 (1) AUTHORITY.—In carrying out subsection
16 (b), the Commission, acting through the Office, may
17 make grants, to the extent amounts are provided in
18 advance in appropriation Acts for such grants, to,
19 and enter into cooperative agreements, contracts,
20 and interagency agreements with States, units of
21 local government, schools, police departments, non-
22 profit organizations, and such other public and pri-
23 vate agencies, entities, and organizations as the Of-
24 fice considers appropriate.

1 (2) EVALUATION.—The Commission, acting
2 through the Office, shall provide for evaluations of
3 projects and activities carried out with financial as-
4 sistance provided under paragraph (1) and for the
5 dissemination of information developed as a result of
6 such projects.

7 **SEC. 6. ANNUAL REPORTS.**

8 The Commission, acting through the Office, shall
9 submit a report not later than March 31 of each year
10 that—

11 (1) describes the activities of the Office during
12 the preceding calendar year;

13 (2) contains any evaluations performed pursu-
14 ant to subsection (c)(2) for any projects and activi-
15 ties carried out during the preceding calendar with
16 assistance under subsection (c)(1);

17 (3) describes and analyzes the current state, as
18 of the preparation of such report, of Internet safety,
19 existing and emerging threats to Internet safety, and
20 costs to the economy of the United States resulting
21 from preventing, responding to, eliminating, and
22 otherwise dealing with threats to Internet safety.

23 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

24 For purposes of this Act, the following definitions
25 shall apply:

1 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
2 means the Federal Trade Commission.

3 (2) INTERNET.—The term “Internet” means
4 collectively the myriad of computer and tele-
5 communications facilities, including equipment and
6 operating software, which comprise the inter-
7 connected world-wide network of networks that em-
8 ploy the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet
9 Protocol, or any predecessor or successor protocols
10 to such protocol, to communicate information of all
11 kinds by wire or radio.

12 (3) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Of-
13 fice of Internet Safety and Public Awareness of the
14 Federal Trade Commission, established by section 2.

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